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# COVID-19 Update

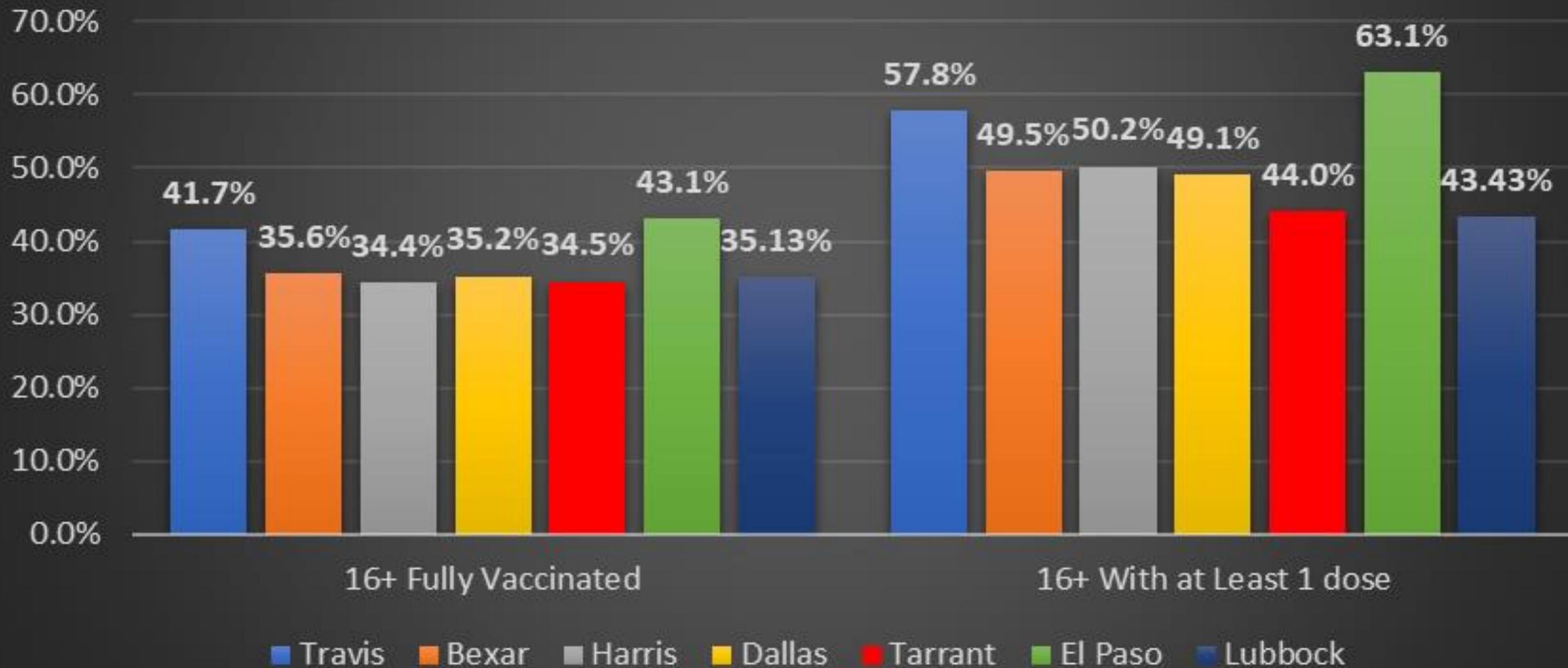
May 4, 2021

Mark Escott, MD, MPH

Chief Medical Officer – City of Austin

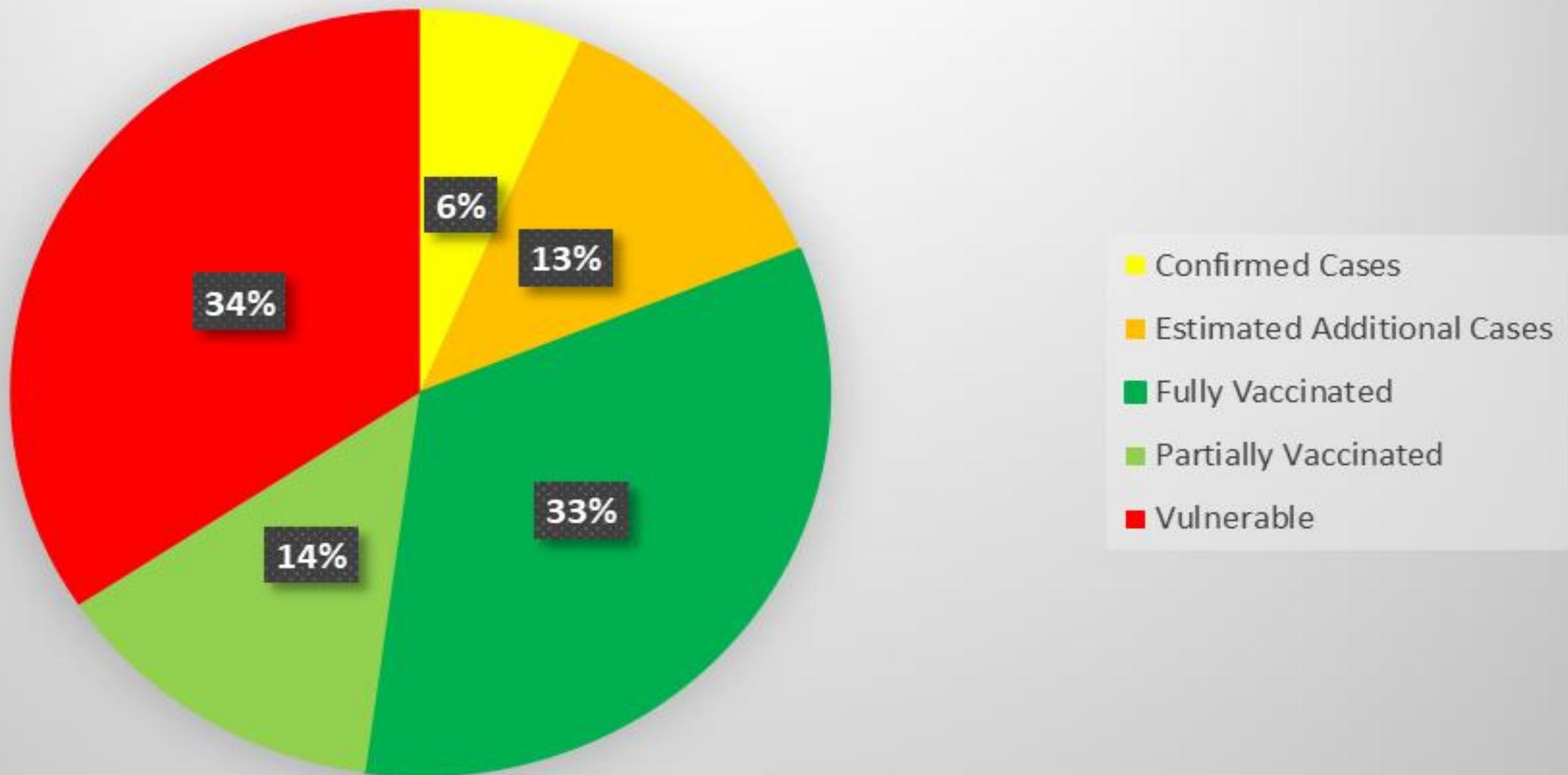
Interim Health Authority – City of Austin and Travis County

# Texas Metropolitan Counties COVID-19 Vaccination Rate

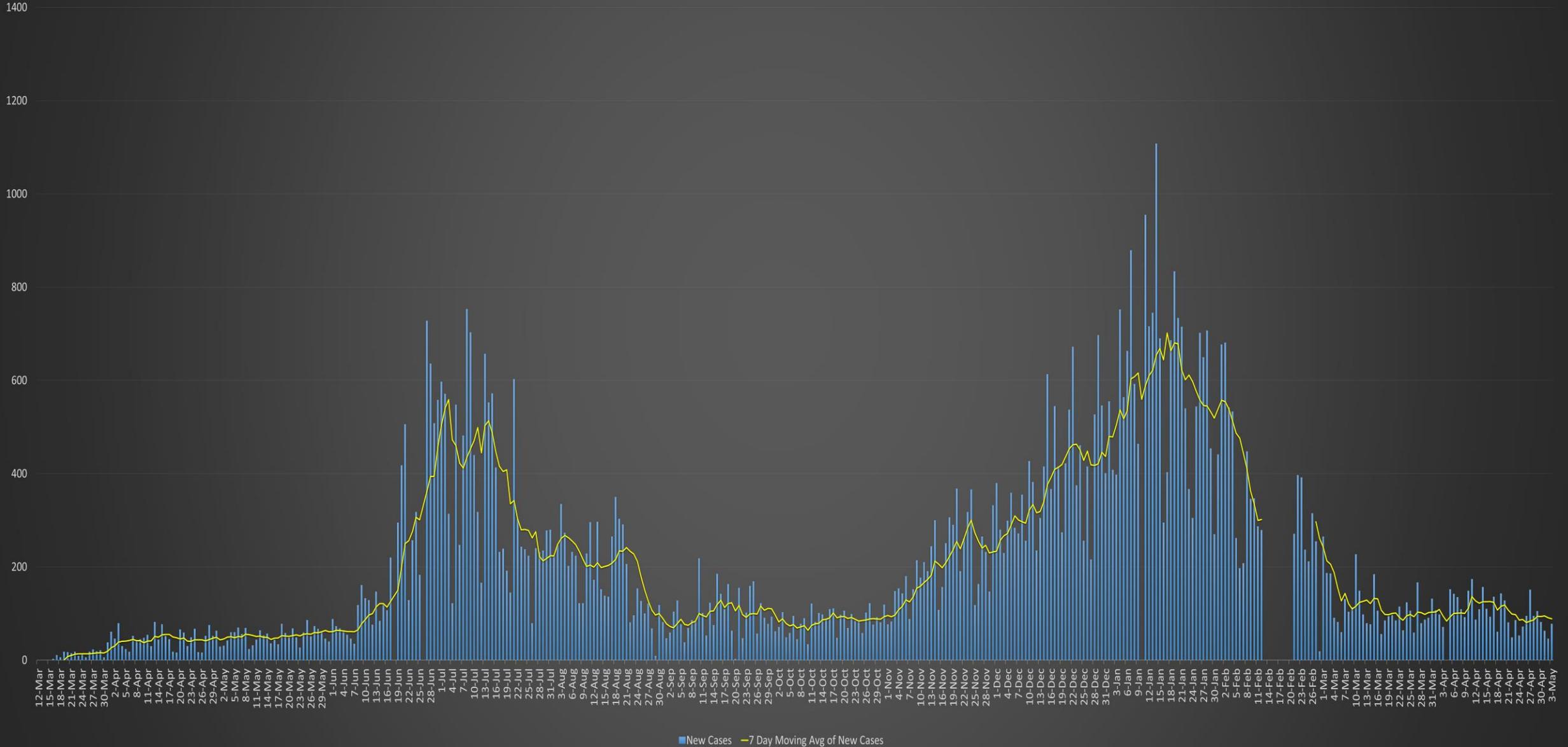


# COVID-19 Progress Towards Herd Immunity

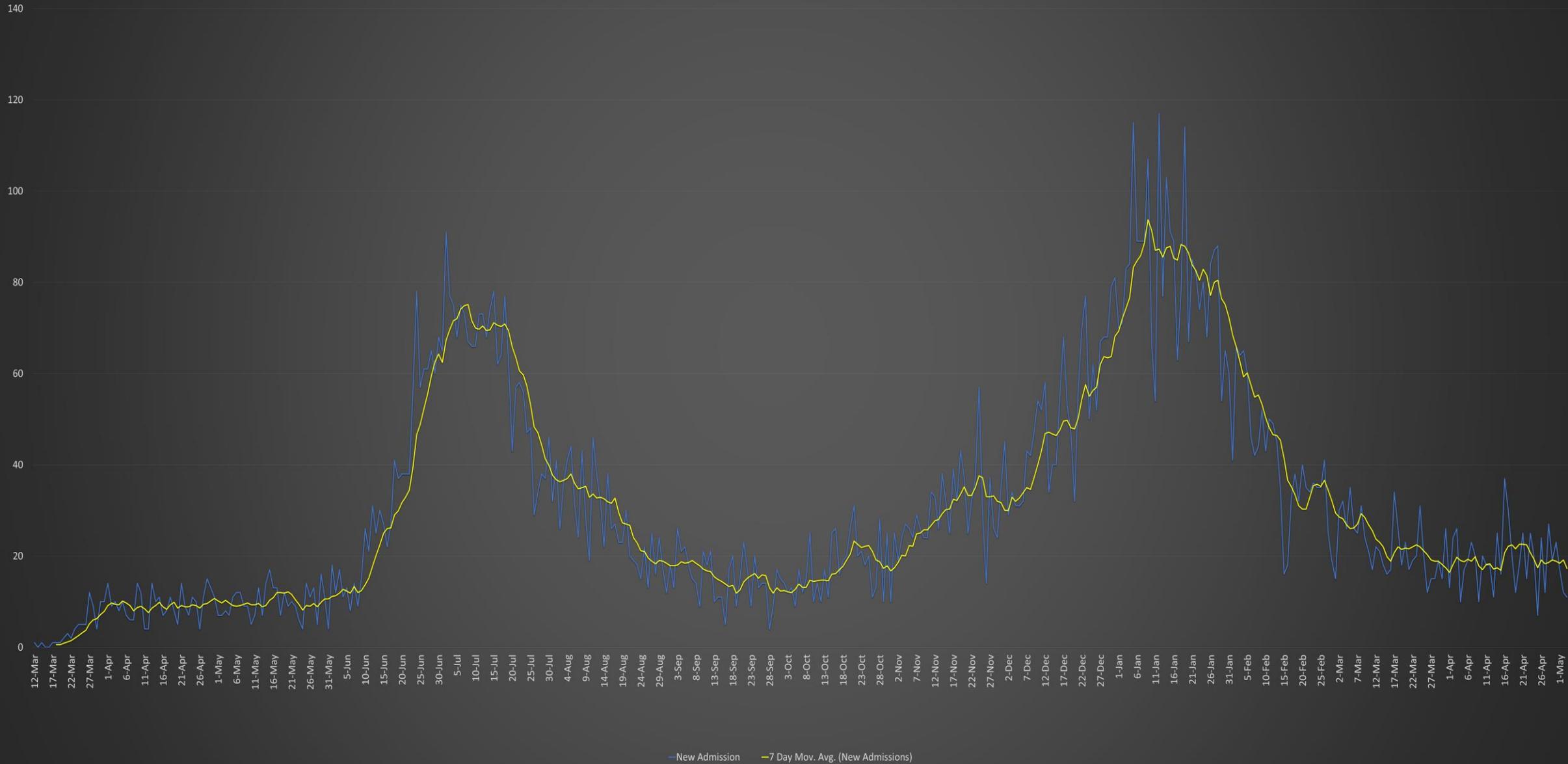
## Austin - Travis County



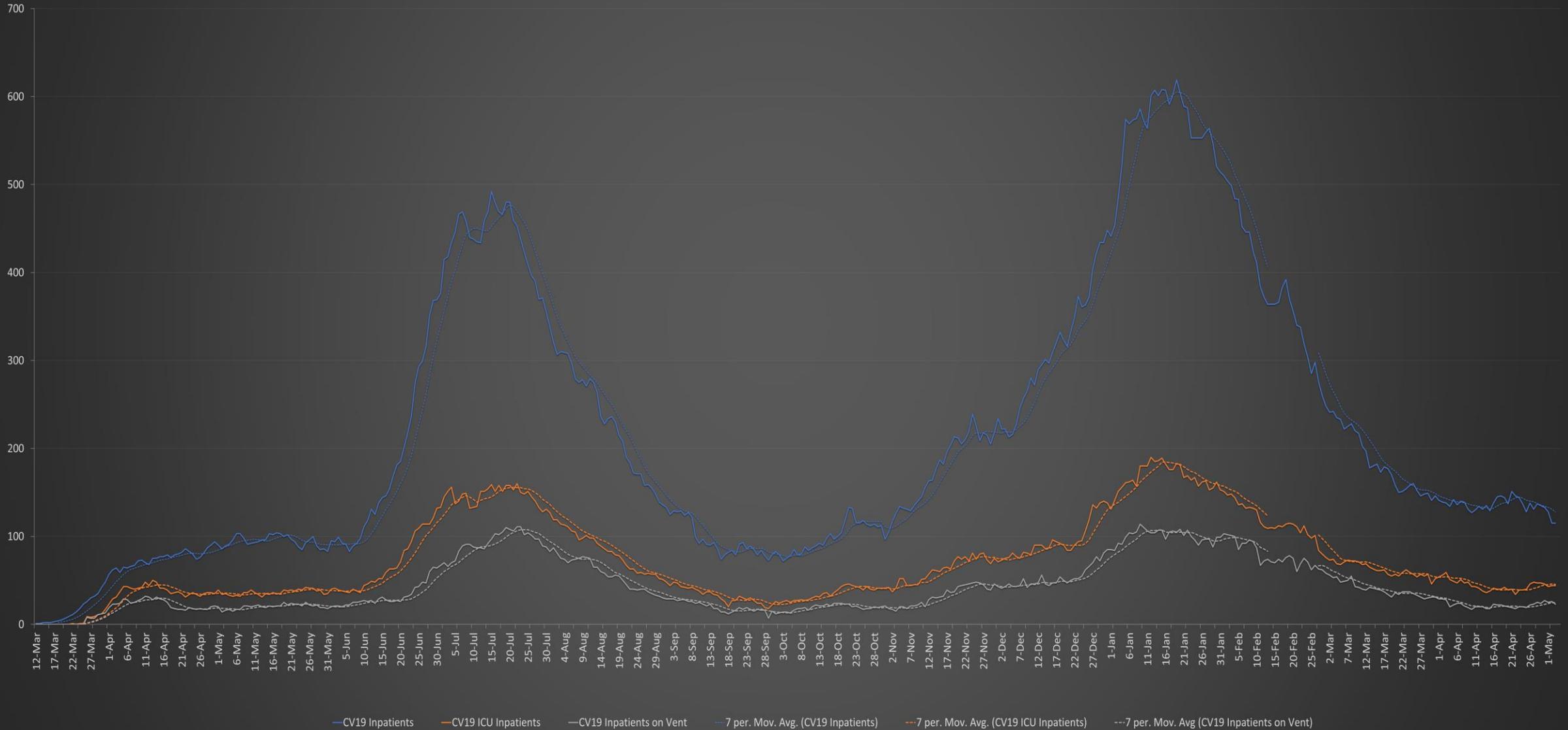
# COVID-19 Travis County New Confirmed Cases



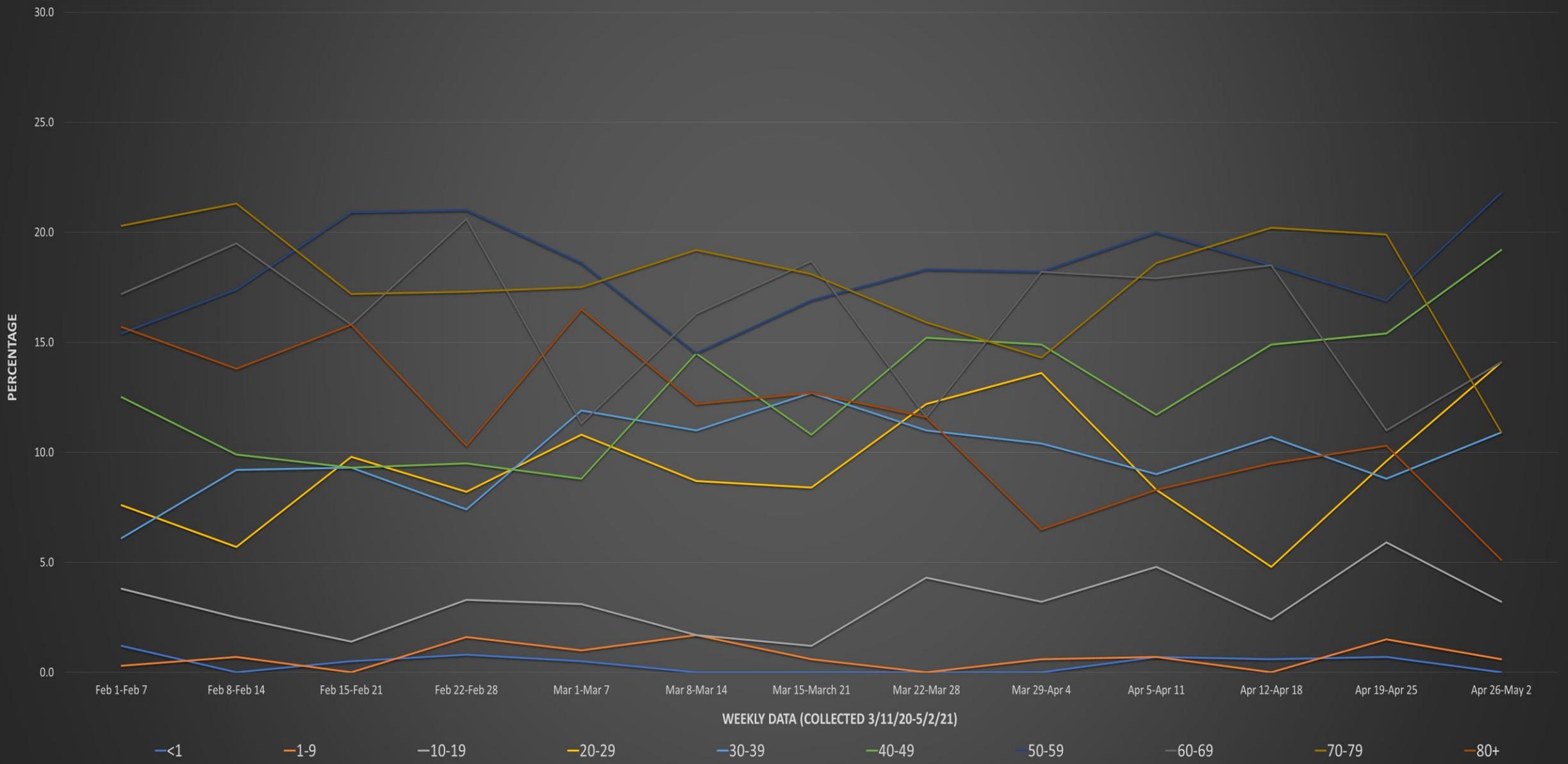
# COVID-19 Austin MSA New Admissions



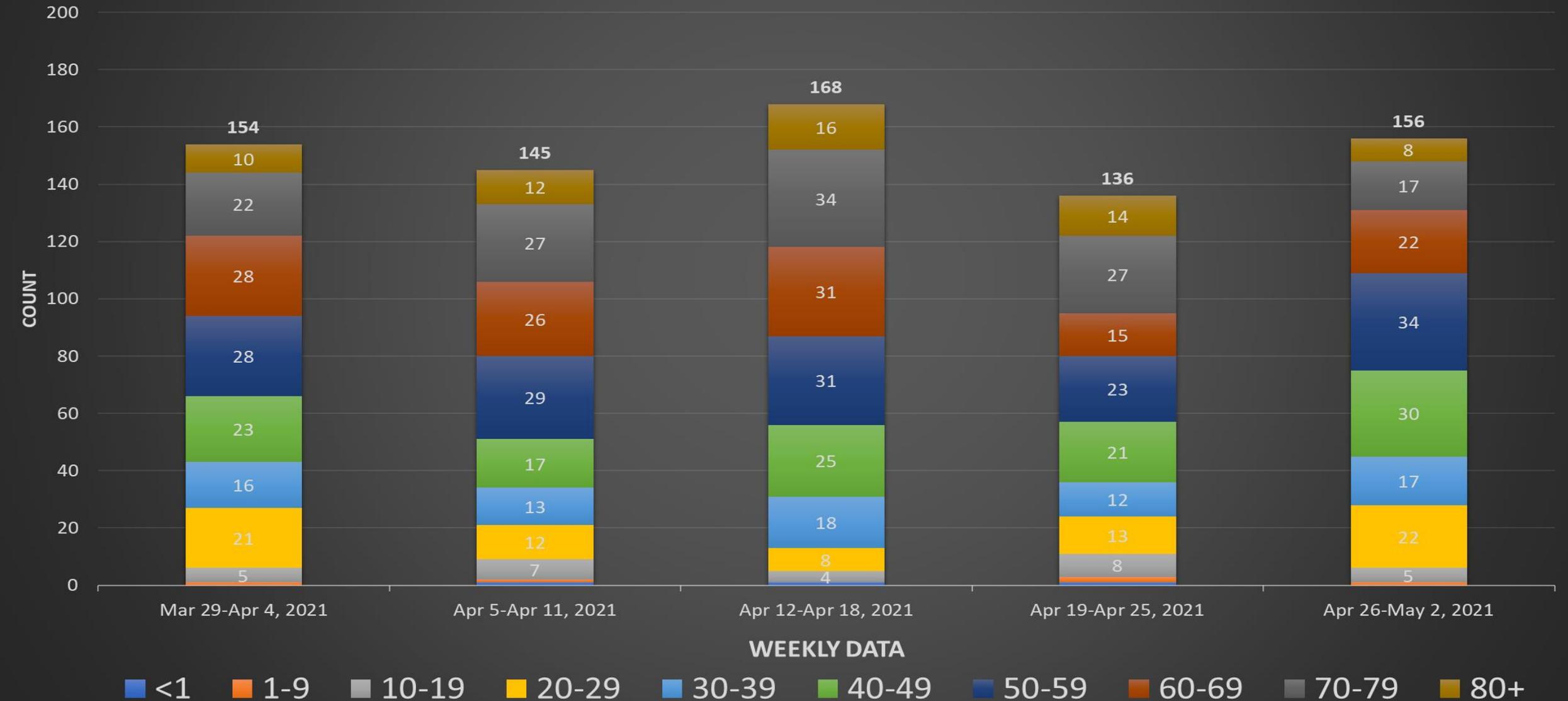
## COVID-19 AUSTIN MSA CURRENT HOSPITALIZATIONS, ICU ADMISSIONS, AND VENTILATOR USE



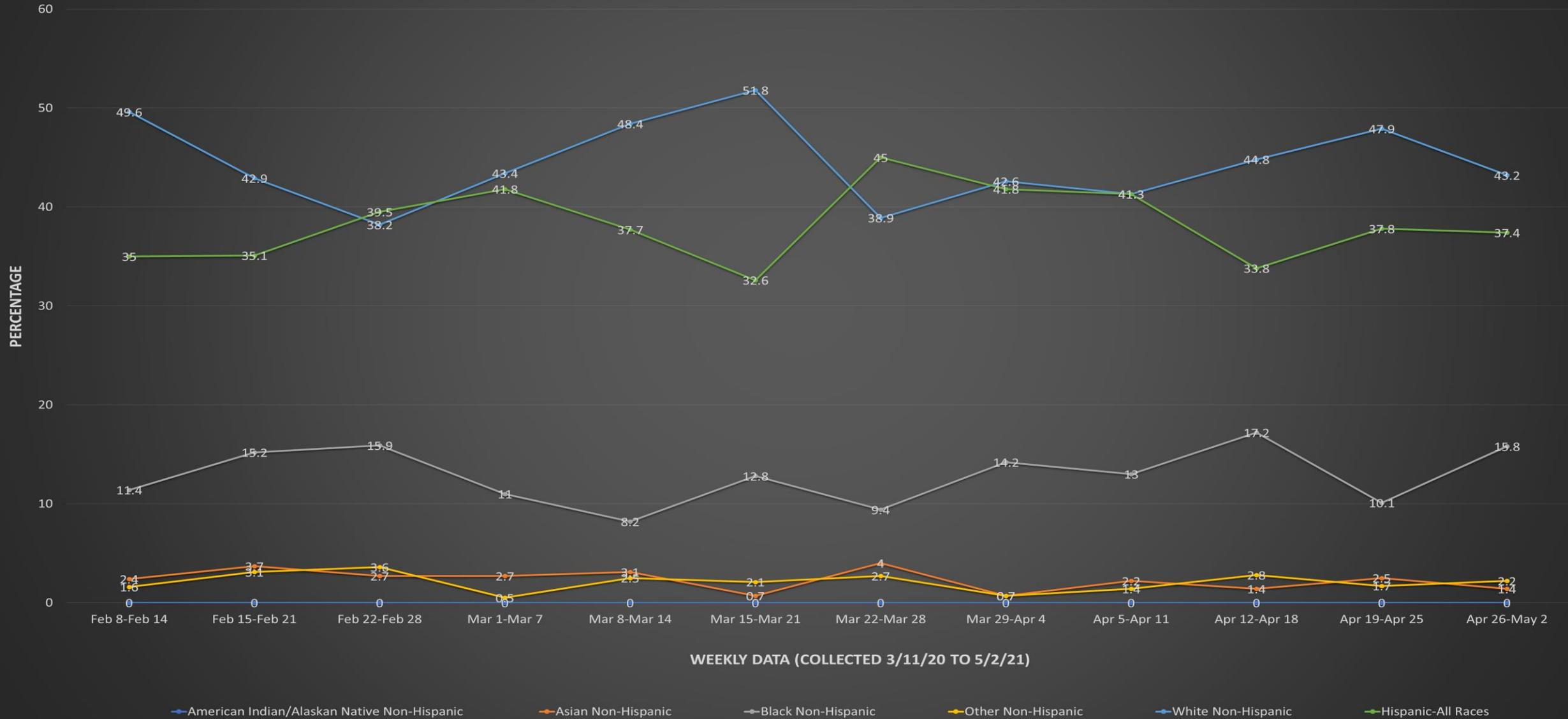
# City of Austin - Travis County COVID-19 Hospitalization by Age Group (Austin MSA)



## City of Austin - Travis County COVID-19 Count of Weekly Hospitalizations by Age Group (Austin MSA)

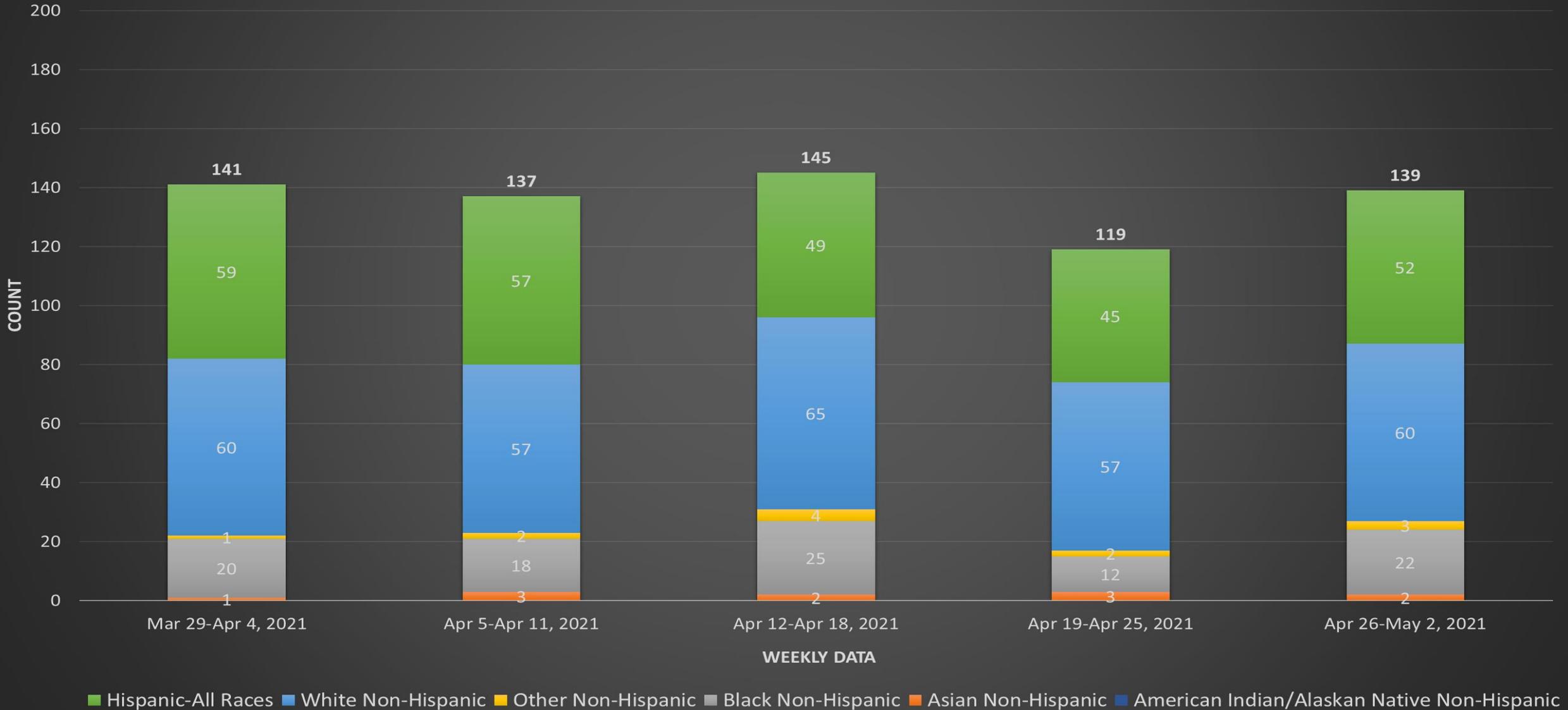


# City of Austin - Travis County COVID-19 Hospitalization by Race & Ethnicity (Austin MSA)



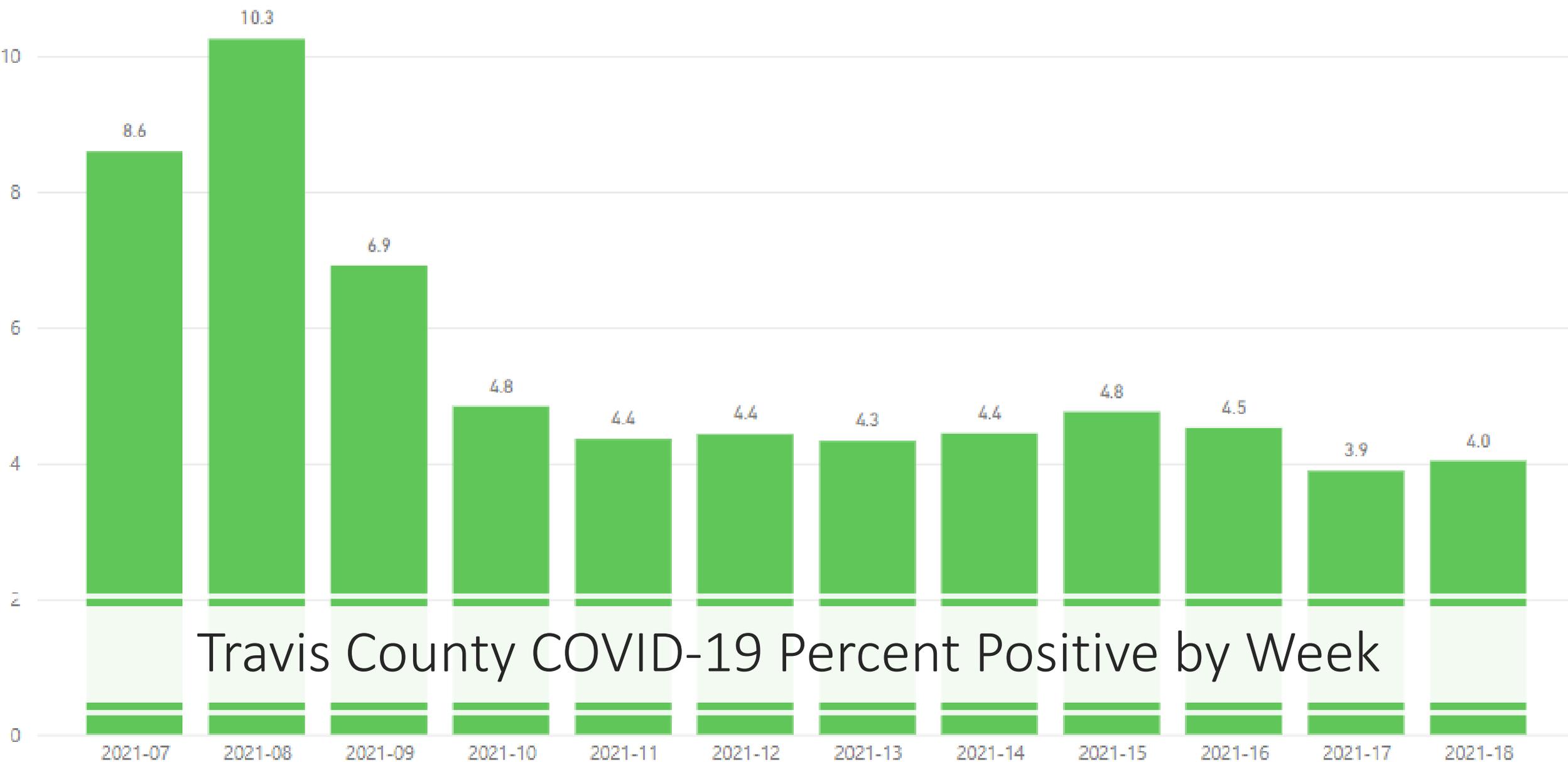
WEEKLY DATA (COLLECTED 3/11/20 TO 5/2/21)

# City of Austin - Travis County COVID-19 Count of Weekly Hospitalizations by Race/Ethnicity (Austin MSA)



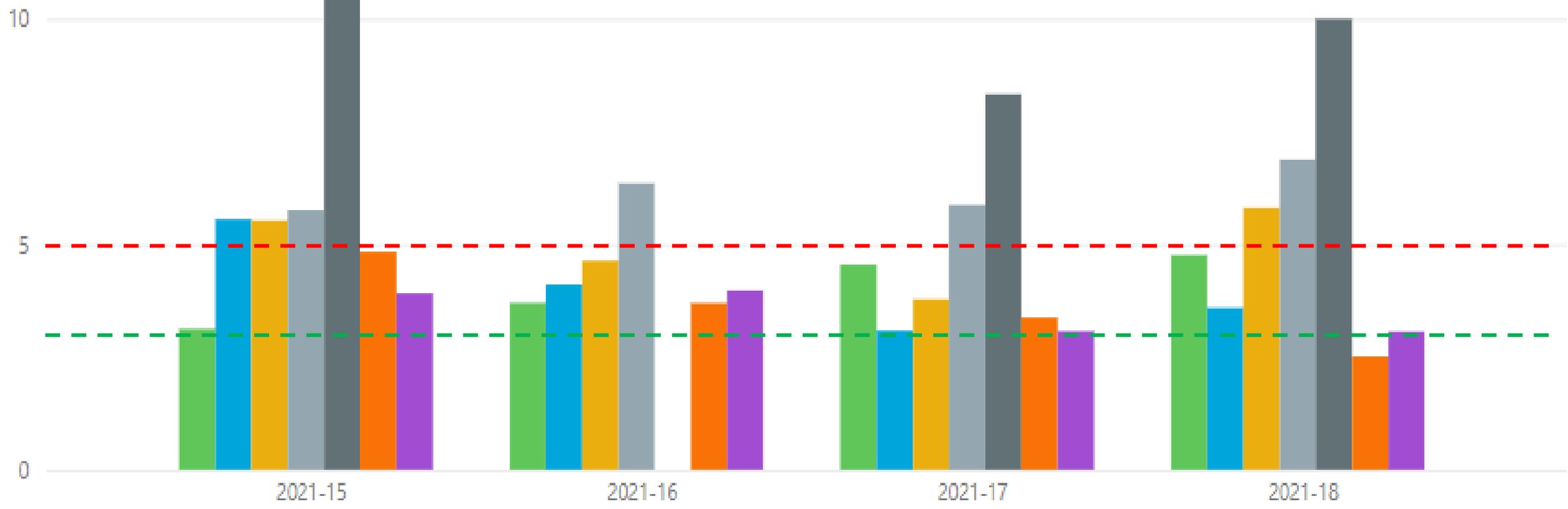
■ Hispanic-All Races 
 ■ White Non-Hispanic 
 ■ Other Non-Hispanic 
 ■ Black Non-Hispanic 
 ■ Asian Non-Hispanic 
 ■ American Indian/Alaskan Native Non-Hispanic

Percent Positive by Test Collection Week and Year - Last 12 Weeks

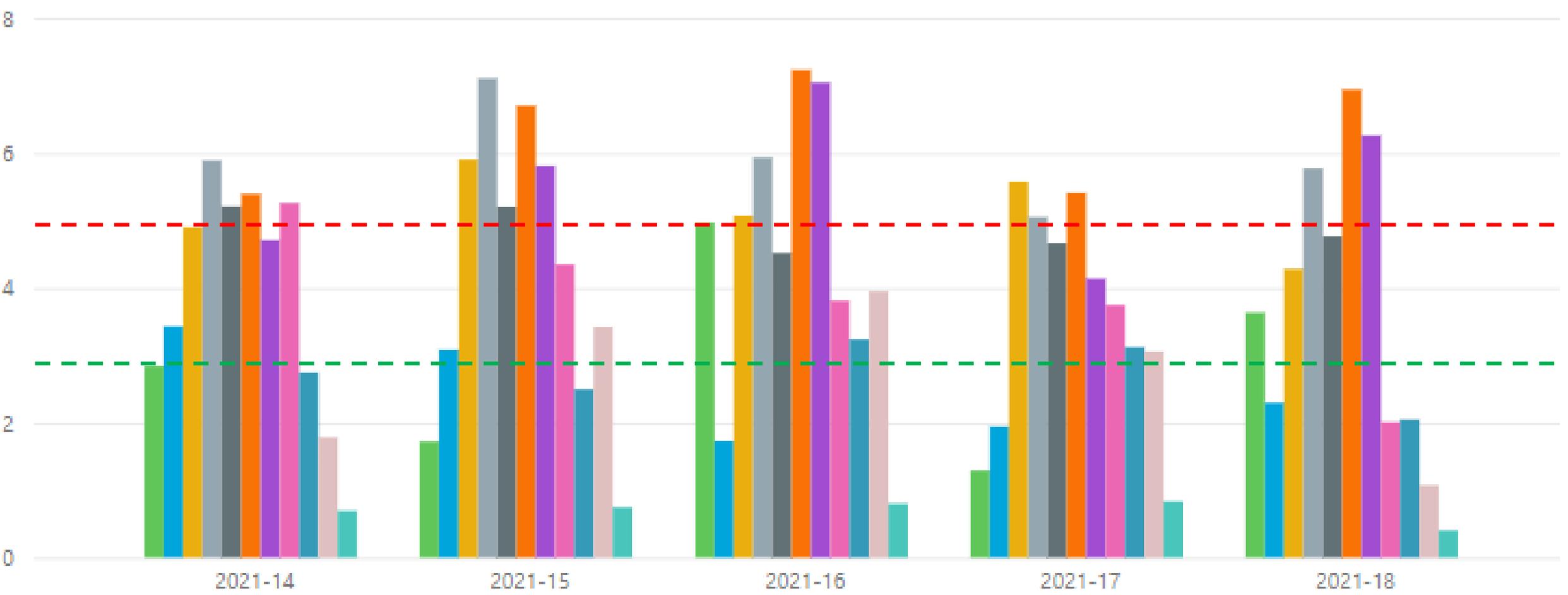


Travis County COVID-19 Percent Positive by Week

Race/Ethnicity ● American Indian or Alaska Native ● Asian ● Black or African American ● Hispanic or Latino ● Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander ● Other ● White



Age Group at Collection ● <1 ● 01-09 ● 10-19 ● 20-29 ● 30-39 ● 40-49 ● 50-59 ● 60-69 ● 70-79 ● 80+ ● Unknown



# Positivity in School- aged Children 4/25-5/1

High School: 4.8%

Middle School: 4.8%

Elementary School: 3.1%

Preschool: 1.6%

**Accession Estates (AL)**  
 Cases within last 14 days: **0**  
 Cases within last 28 days: **0**

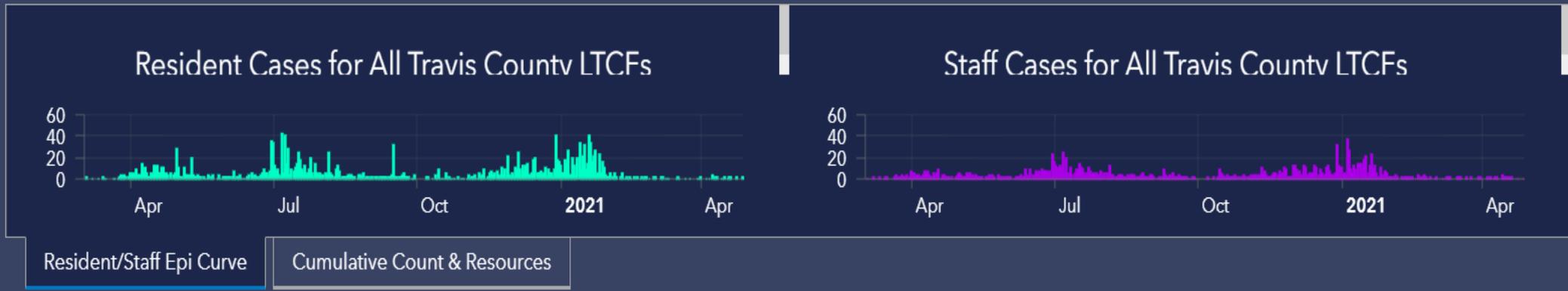
**Arbor Terrace Lakeway (AL)**  
 Cases within last 14 days: **0**  
 Cases within last 28 days: **0**

**Arden Courts (AL)**  
 Cases within last 14 days: **0**  
 Cases within last 28 days: **0**

**Auberge at Bee Caves (AL)**  
 Cases within last 14 days: **0**  
 Cases within last 28 days: **0**

**Auberge at Onion Creek (AL)**  
 Cases within last 14 days: **0**

|   |                                      |                                      |               |   |
|---|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|---------------|---|
| <b>Cases</b>  | <b>New Cases Within Last 14 Days</b> | <b>New Cases Within Last 28 Days</b> | <b>Deaths</b> | <b>Travis County Percent Positivity</b> |
| <b>3,421</b>  | <b>10</b>                            | <b>24</b>                            | <b>306</b>    | <b>4.7%</b>                             |
| Data from April 7-April 20, 2021<br><small>Source: Data.CMS.gov</small> |                                      |                                      |               |   |





## Regional Infusion Center

- TDEM opened on 1/6
- 1071 patients treated
- Demobilization will be completed today
- Ascension Seton and Baylor Scott and White systems will continue offering Monoclonal Antibody Therapy

|   | MMWR Week 16 | Season to Date |
|---|--------------|----------------|
| <b>Influenza Tests Performed</b>        | 169          | 9218           |
| <b>Total Positive Influenza Tests</b>   | 0            | 109            |
| <b>% Positive Influenza Tests</b>       | 0.00%        | 1.18%          |
| <b>Positive Rapid Influenza A</b>       | 0            | 34             |
| <b>Positive PCR Influenza A</b>         | 0            | 0              |
| <b>Positive Rapid Influenza B</b>       | 0            | 69             |
| <b>Positive PCR Influenza B</b>         | 0            | 0              |
| <b>Positive Rapid Influenza A and B</b> | 0            | 6              |
| <b>Non-Differentiated Influenza</b>     | 0            | 0              |

# Travis County Influenza Report

95 percentile

length of hospital stay (days)

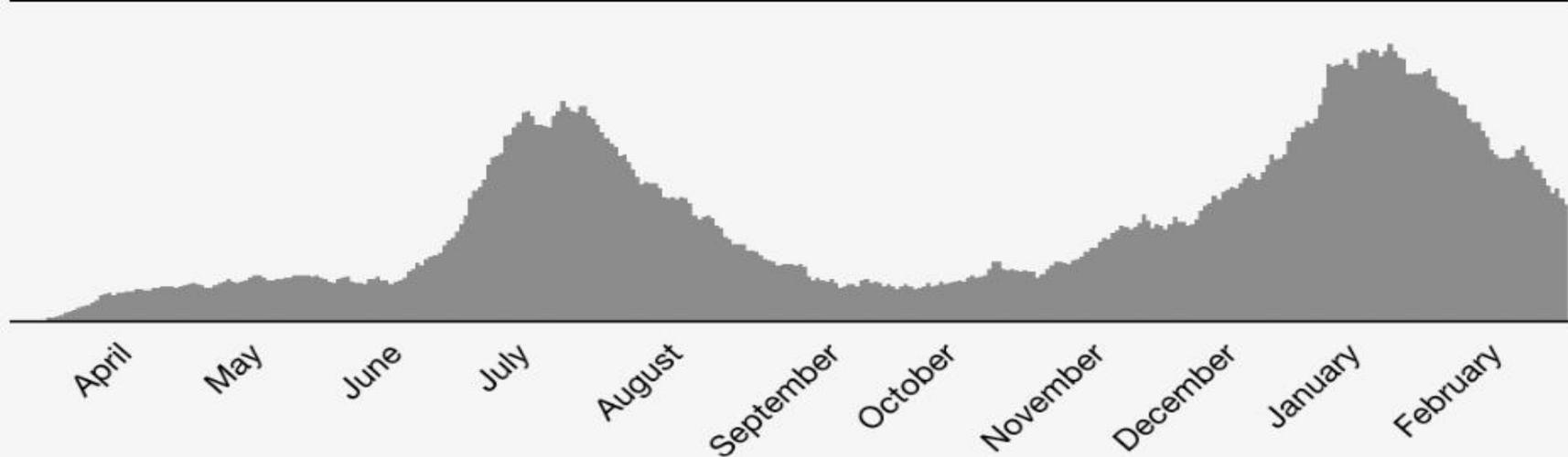
60  
50  
40  
30  
20



50-64

65+

17-49



COVID-19 hospitalizations

# COVID-19 fatality rate (in hospital)

0.3

0.2

0.1

65+

50-64

17-49



COVID-19 hospitalizations

April

May

June

July

August

September

October

November

December

January

February

# COVID-19 Risk-Based Chart - Vaccine Edition

\*\* Please continue following additional requirements of local businesses, venues and schools regardless of vaccination status or stage.

| Recommended thresholds<br>7-day average hospital admits         |                | Private Gatherings** |   |            |   | Travel**   |   | Dining/ Shopping** |   |
|---|----------------|----------------------|---|------------|---|------------|---|--------------------|---|
|   |                | Indoor               |   | Outdoor    |   | Vaccinated | Partially/ Unvaccinated                     | Vaccinated         | Partially/ Unvaccinated                     |
|   |                | Vaccinated           | Partially/ Unvaccinated                     | Vaccinated | Partially/ Unvaccinated                     |            |   |                    |   |
| <5<br>or<br>70%-90%<br>vaccination<br>herd immunity<br>achieved | <b>Stage 1</b> |                      |   |            |   |            |   |                    |   |
| 5 - 14  | <b>Stage 2</b> |                      |   |            |   |            |   |                    |   |
| 15 - 29   | <b>Stage 3</b> |                      | <br>If high risk:<br>avoid unless essential |            | <br>If high risk:<br>avoid unless essential |            | <br>If high risk:<br>avoid unless essential |                    | <br>If high risk:<br>avoid unless essential |
| 30 -<br>(50 - 90) *   | <b>Stage 4</b> |                      |   |            |   |            | Only if essential                           |                    | Only if essential                           |
| > 50 - 90 *   | <b>Stage 5</b> |                      |   |            |   |            |   |                    | Only if essential                           |

\* The exact hospitalization average trigger will depend on the rate of increase. A faster increase in the daily average will trigger stage 5 risk recommendations when the number reaches the lower end of this range.



Mask optional, continue washing hands and other hygiene precautions

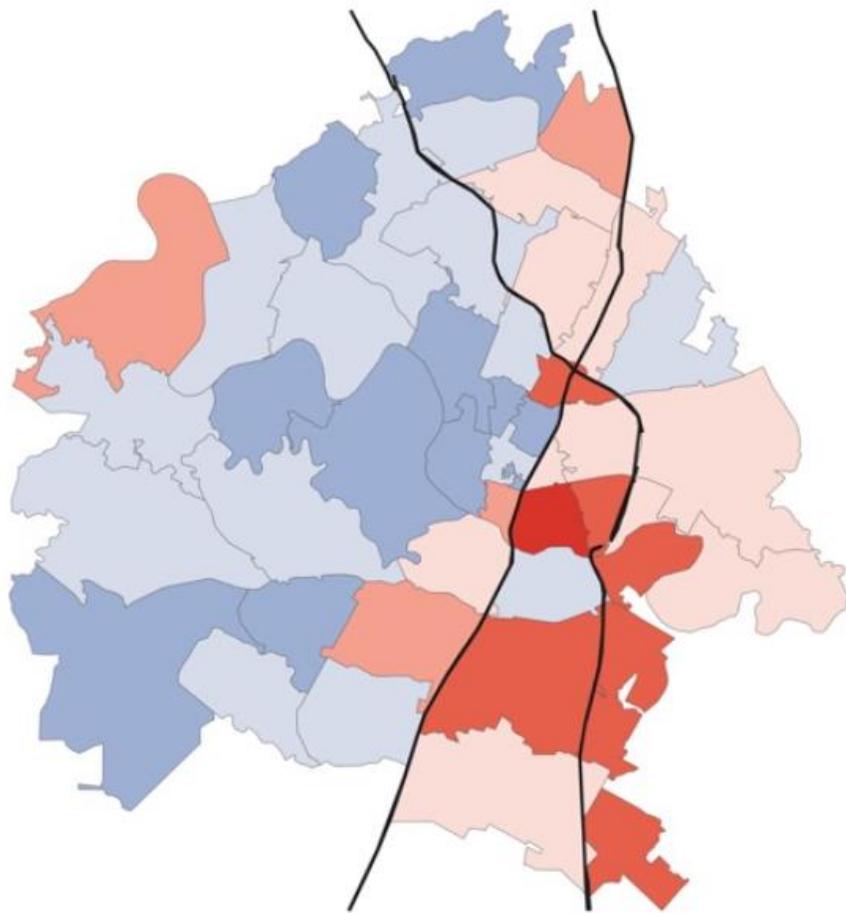


Not recommended at all, with or without masks



Take prevention measures: wear a mask, wash your hands and social distance following CDC guidelines





in-hospital COVID deaths per 100K



Average (~54)      Total (~78)      Texas (~169)



# COVID-19 UPDATE

May 4, 2021

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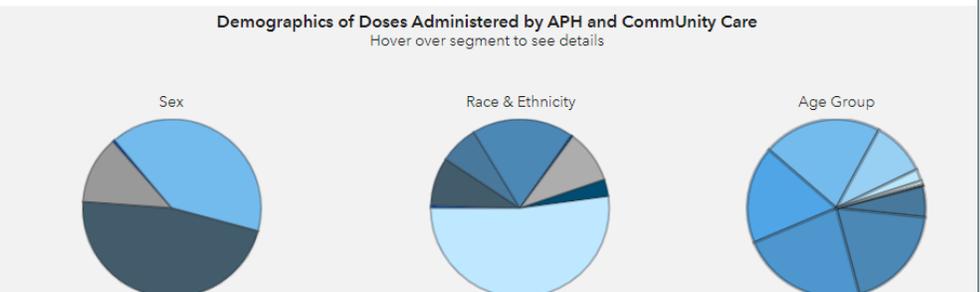
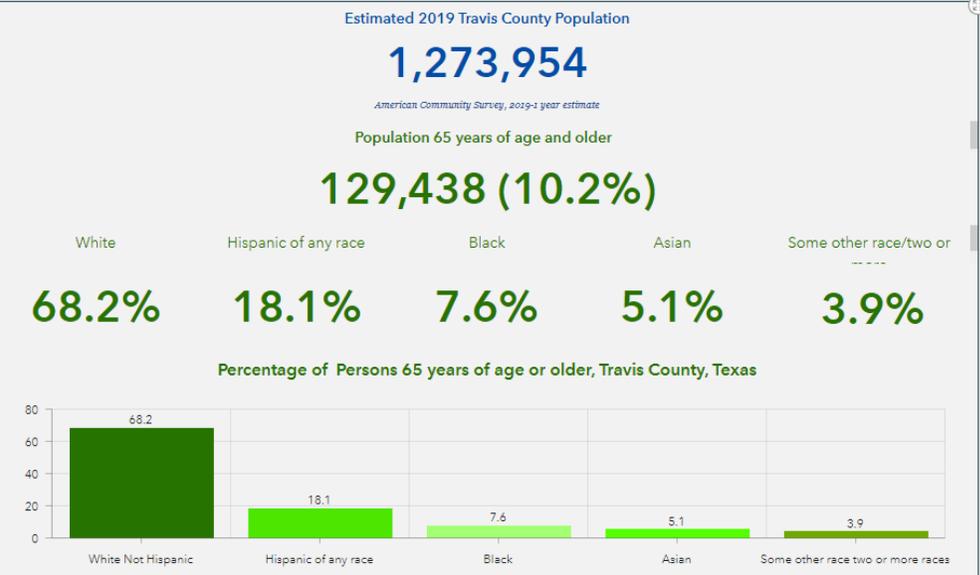
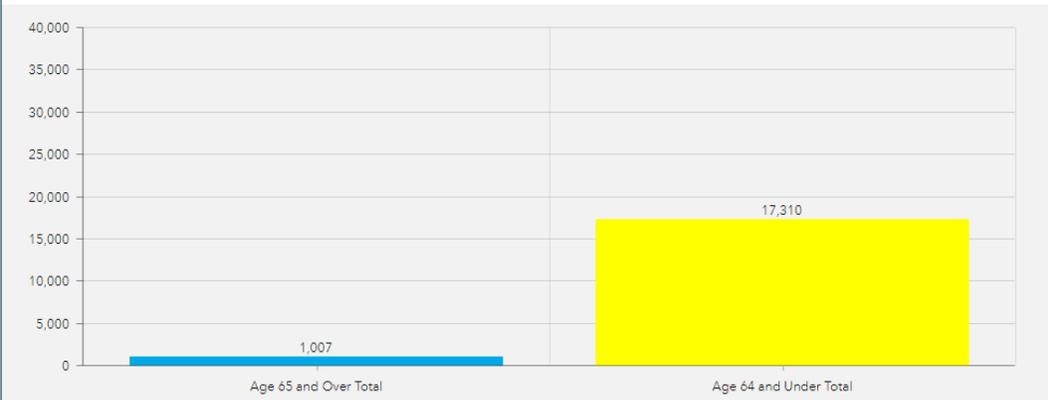
STEPHANIE HAYDEN-HOWARD

AUSTIN PUBLIC HEALTH DIRECTOR



# APH Vaccine Dashboard Update

CommunityCare & APH data merged:



# Vaccine for Childcare, Education, and Senior Population Update

## APH TOTAL

- A total of **287,663** vaccines have been administered at all hub locations since 12/28/2020

## Childcare/School Staff

- ~13,107 school and child-care staff have been vaccinated with at least one dose (as of 5/4)

## Senior Population

- Doses through APH (60 years and older as of 5/4):
  - First dose ~60K
  - Second dose: ~45K

## DSHS total

- ~106,349 Travis County residents 65 years or older have been vaccinated with at least one dose

# Vaccine Update

Get a COVID-19 vaccine through APH by:



Scheduling an appointment online



Scheduling an appointment by phone

Call 3-1-1 or (512) 974-2000, leave your name and phone number



Coordinating a home visit for homebound

Call 3-1-1 or (512) 974-2000, leave your name and phone number

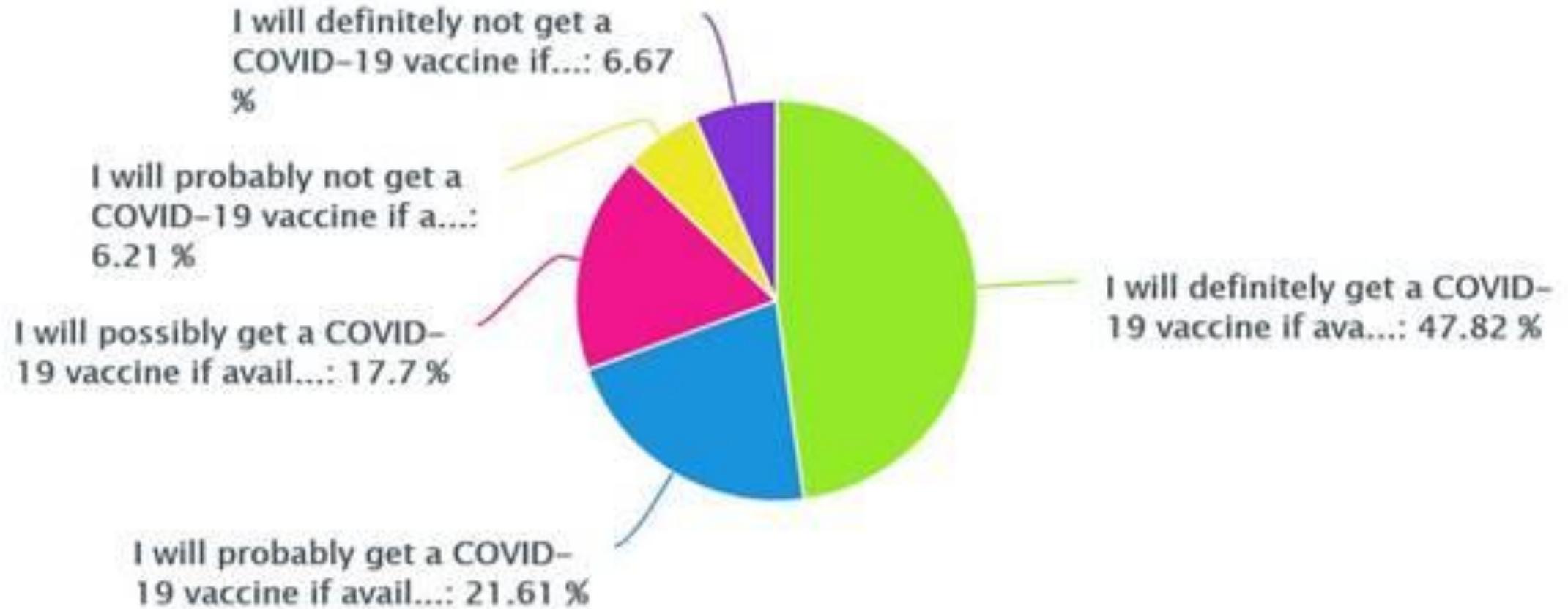


Going to a walk-up (no appointment required) clinic:

- Delco Activity Center
- Southeast Library
- Little Walnut Creek Library
- Travis County drive-thru clinic

*For dates and times of walk-ups, view the “Upcoming Events” at [AustinTexas.gov/COVID19](https://www.austintexas.gov/COVID19) or call 3-1-1 or (512) 974-2000*

# APH Crowd Source Data



# Bivariate Analysis

## Plan to Take COVID-19 Vaccine by Age and Select Demographic Variable



Community Conversation  
March 10, 2021  
N=1,648

| <i>Less likely to say “yes” to take COVID-19 vaccine if ....</i>  |                        | 18-34 Years Old        | 35-49 Years Old        | 50+ Years Old          |
|---|------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|
|  Female Sex                                     | ↓ <b>19%</b><br>P≤.001 |                        | ↓ <b>16%</b><br>P=.01  | ↓ <b>24%</b><br>P≤.001 |
|  Black Race                                     | ↓ <b>47%</b><br>P≤.001 | ↓ <b>38%*</b><br>P=.02 | ↓ <b>44%</b><br>P=.003 | ↓ <b>46%</b><br>P≤.001 |
|  Hispanic, Latino, or Spanish origin            | ↓ <b>15%</b><br>P=.004 |                        | ↓ <b>17%*</b><br>P=.04 |                        |
|  High School diploma or less                   | ↓ <b>21%</b><br>P≤.001 |                        | ↓ <b>27%</b><br>P=.005 | ↓ <b>26%</b><br>P≤.001 |
|  Household makes less than \$30,000 per year | ↓ <b>11%</b><br>P=.002 |                        | ↓ <b>15%</b><br>P=.02  |                        |

# Qualitative Feedback (Preliminary Findings)

Plan to Take COVID-19 Vaccine by Age and Select Demographic Variable



Survey  
December 24-31, 2020  
N=737

## Responses to the statement: "I Plan to Take the COVID-19 Vaccine When Available"

### "Yes"



- Protection from COVID
- Perceived susceptibility
- Believes in science
- Believes in vaccines
- Work related

*"Porque quiero estar protegida y proteger a mi familia."*

*"It's responsible and I trust scientists."*

*"I do not want to get sick with COVID -19 and miss valuable time at work."*

### "No"



- Personal health concerns
- Lack of vaccine trust
- Vaccine not needed
- Wants real-world data

*"Don't care if I get [COVID]."*

*"I don't feel at risk.."*

*"i will wait for the 1st round of people to die from such a short testing time."*

*"99.99% survival rate. No one needs the covid vaccine. Gotta make that [pharma] company rich somehow."*

### "Don't Know"



- Just not sure
- Need more information
- Side-effect concerns
- Personal reasons

*"Por que no estoy muy segura de ponerlo y dependiendo el costo."*

*"I am skeptical of the Covid vaccine and need more research."*

*"Questiones personales."*

*"Because I'm not sure what I want to do."*

### "Prefer Not To Say"



- Health concerns
- Skeptical about the vaccine
- Wants more data
- Concerns about side-effects

*"Because if I say 'prefer not to answer' that will be interpreted as 'no'."*

*"My [relative] is a [scientist]. [Relative] fears the speed at which this vaccine was developed.."*

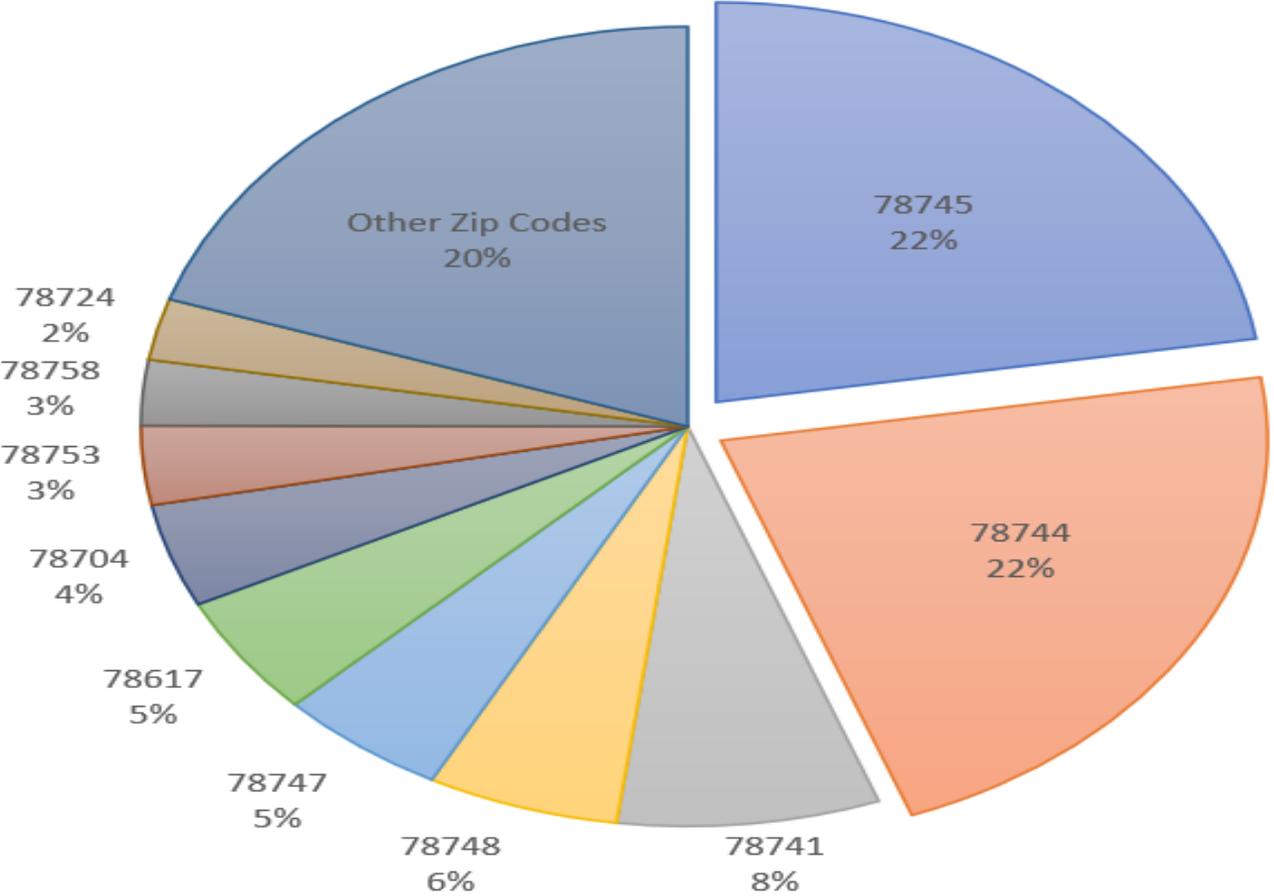
*"Would like additional long term data published."*

*"mRNA vaccines for humans are new and untested and this one was rushed through the approval cycle."*

# COVID19 Survey - Food Pantry Clients

Source: El Buen

**Clients By Zip Code**  
Total of Zip Codes Served: 68



# Hesitancy explained...

Source: El Buen

| Responses<br>Categorized by Themes   |  |   |  |
|--|--|---|--|
| Information*   | Trust  | Reaction  | Health   |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Conflicting information</li> <li>• I do not know enough about it (20% of respondents)</li> <li>• I do not know where to go for information</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Don't trust it's safe</li> <li>• Need more studies about the vaccine</li> <li>• Has not been around very long</li> <li>• The vaccine was done too fast, I do not trust it</li> <li>• Vaccines are not good, they do not work</li> <li>• I will wait for more studies</li> </ul> | <p>The vaccine causes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Bad side effects</li> <li>• Bad reactions</li> <li>• Allergic reactions</li> <li>• Brain disorders</li> <li>• Death</li> <li>• Paralysis</li> <li>• COVID-19</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• I already had COVID and it was not bad – (10% of respondents)</li> <li>• I have chronic illness</li> <li>• I get the flu with the vaccine, I will get COVID with the vaccine</li> <li>• We don't have insurance need to go back to work</li> <li>• Bad for you if you have allergies</li> </ul> |

# Equity Focused Strategies



## **PARTNERSHIPS**

- Mini-grants
- United Way grants
- Faith-based communities
- Non-profit and private organizations



## **OUTREACH & ENGAGEMENT**

- Social Services Branch embedded in Emergency Operations Center
- Realtime dashboard updates that guide outreach efforts
- Culturally relevant messaging
- Email information to social services distribution list
- TV, radio, digital, social media PSAs
- Health Equity Travis County Call Center



## **EQUITABLE ACCESS**

- Strategic clinic locations & Mobile Vaccine Program
- Transportation services
- Language access
- Addressing digital divide



Thank you

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